

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 00521 281313Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 DRC-01

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O R 281215Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9723

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BE

SUBJECT: KING ASKS TINDEMANS TO TRY TO FORM GOVERNMENT

REF: BRUSSELS 518

1. KING HAS ASKED VICE PREMIER TINDEMANS (FLEMISH
SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY (CVP) TO TRY TO FORM A GOVERNMENT.
WHETHER THIS WILL BE POSSIBLE SHOULD BE KNOWN IN NEXT
DAY OR TWO BUT OUTLOOK IS UNFAVORABLE. FAILURE WOULD
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 00521 281313Z

MEAN KING WOULD THEN DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT AND THAT

ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD IN MARCH.

2. TINDEMANS'S OBJECTIVE IS TO FORM A TRANSITIONAL, MINORITY GOVERNMENT WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE FRANCOPHONE SOCIAL CHRISTIAN (PSC) AND LIBERAL PARTIES (PLP/PVV) AND THE SUPPORT OF THE FEDERALIST/LINGUISTIC PARTIES (FDR/RW AND VOLKSUNIE). THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE TO EMPOWER THE NEXT PARLIAMENT TO ENACT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

3. IN UNDERTAKING TASK, TINDEMANS SAID NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO REFLECT THE "TRADITIONAL EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN THE TWO (FLEMISH AND WALLOON) GREAT COMMUNITIES". SUCCESS OF HIS EFFORT THEREFORE DEPENDS UPON HIS ABILITY TO PERSUADE FRANCOPHONE SOCIAL CHRISTIANS UNDER PSC PRESIDENT CHARLES-FERDIANAND NOTHOMB TO REVERSE THEIR THUS-FAR FIRM OPPOSITION TO MINORITY, TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT.

4. SOCIALISTS (PSB) CONTINUE THEIR REFUSAL TO JOIN ANY NEW GOVERNMENT WITHOUT ELECTIONS AND EXPECT TINDEMANS TO PROVE UNABLE TO FORM MINORITY GOVERNMENT. PSB LEADER ANDRE COOLS HAS GIVEN AMBASSADOR PSC OVERVIEW OF CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION, REPORTED SEPARATELY.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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